

# Movie Makers

March-April 2004

Volume 14 No. 2

The American Motion Picture Society

## *The Plan for AMPS*

### **American Motion Picture Society 2004 - and Beyond**

By Ned Cordery,  
President,  
American Motion Picture Society

#### **Introduction.**

The American Motion Picture Society (AMPS) is a society for the makers of non-commercial films. AMPS organizes the annual American International Film and Video Festival, the longest continuously running Festival in the United States and publishes *Movie Makers*, a bi-monthly newsletter.

In recent years the membership has declined and is now at less than 100 and the entries to the Festival have declined from 250 plus in the mid 90s to 37 last year. The fact that AMPS has survived is directly attributable to two people, Roger Garretson, Secretary/Treasurer and Matt Jenkins, Editor of *Movie Makers*. Roger decided that a serious ef-

fort must be made to restore AMPS to its former strength and asked me to help as this was a task that needed additional input. I have sought the help of Roger and Matt and the members of the Board of Directors and this plan is the result of the input of many people.

The organized amateur film making communities (I include video making in this description) in the USA, UK and Canada are all in decline with falling membership of clubs and organizing bodies. The explosion in the choice of video cameras capable of producing high quality images and sound, the wide selection of consumer editing programs (there is even a simple edit program built into Windows XP) and the ease of playing back the results on a TV have created a new world of opportunity compared with the difficulty of working in Super8 or 16mm film. So where have all the film makers gone?

They are there in ever growing

numbers as attested to by the hundreds of Festivals now being held around the world. What happened?

I believe that there are two problems, one of perception and one real.

The problem of **perception** is that the word amateur has changed in meaning and now in the film and video world means inferior, of poor quality. As an adjective the word amateurish is pejorative. To younger film makers with aspirations for recognition, not necessarily for reward or entering the industry, to be referred to as an amateur carries a suggestion of inferiority.

The **real** problem is that the amateur world does not attract the current world of young film makers. Given the number of film makers out there this is difficult to understand; but I believe there are two contributing factors. First, the perception of the amateur as of inferior ability and,

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## Movie Makers

Dedicated to the interests of the Serious Motion Picture Maker.

**Vol.14 March-April 2004  
No. 2**

MOVIE MAKERS is published bi-monthly on the 25th day of odd-numbered months by the AMERICAN MOTION PICTURE SOCIETY and features news and articles of interest to the serious motion picture maker, video or film.

Membership price per year is \$10.00, Canada \$12.00, foreign addresses \$13.00, all payable in U.S. funds or equivalent. Articles may be copied when the source is given. Back copies are available at .80 cents post paid.

**George W. Cushman  
Founder,  
1909-1996**

Matt Jenkins, Editor

The AMERICAN MOTION PICTURE SOCIETY is not connected with any other organization, society, club or association. The Society does not offer dual, club, nor group memberships.

Address correspondence to the Society, 30 Kanan Rd. Oak Park, CA 91377-1105. E-mail: RGARETSON@AOL.COM.

[www.angelfire.com/movies/amps](http://www.angelfire.com/movies/amps)

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## From The Editor

I constantly tell my students to produce a quality script, free of spelling and grammatical errors for the script serves two major purposes.

First, it serves as the statement a producer shows to someone else in order to get that person interested in participating or funding the production. If the script has errors or is vague then the person may easily reject it.

Second, the script is a road map to production. Especially for us no/low budget producers, having a quality script is important to insuring a successful production.

Most of this issue of Movie Makers is devoted to an important document produced by AMPS new President, Ned Cordery. This plan has been reviewed and agreed upon by the AMPS Board of Directors. It is important that you, faithful AMPS members, read it carefully. Much like the script, this plan will serve as our statement to keep current members interested and to attract new members. It is also our road map to a successful future for AMPS. In reading it over you may feel that it has "errors." However, I caution you, read it carefully and you will see it is a fully reasoned plan for success.

I am impressed with how Ned takes delicate issues and works them out. It is a good, solid plan. I commend Ned for taking on a difficult task and creating an excellent solution.

As with any script, this plan is

not "set in stone." It does give much need direction and purpose to AMPS. Please feel free to e-mail me, Roger or Ned your comments, praise, or criticisms regarding this plan. THANKS NED!

I have finished my Glenn Pray documentary. It seems that even though I try to keep costs down, they tend to grow with each production. Special thanks to Roger Garretson, Monte Brown, Charles Stanley, and Mike Leal for all of their help on



JBPC PRESENTS A MATT JENKINS DOCUMENTARY "PRAY'S PASSION"  
DIRECTED BY MATT JENKINS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR MONTE BROWN  
NARRATED BY MICHAEL LEAL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY TULSA CHARLES  
STANLEY DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ORANGE CA. ROGER GARRETSON

this production.

It has already been accepted into a film festival. It will screen April 23rd at 1 PM at the Bare Bones Independent Film Festival in Muskogee, Oklahoma. It will be shown in the historic Roxy Theatre. Glenn Pray will be in attendance and will bring one of his classic cars. I need to get it into more festivals and I have approached a distributor. But so far it has been really quiet.

As always, you may e-mail me at [matij@cameron.edu](mailto:matij@cameron.edu)

# To The Editor

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Hi Matt;

Ron Doerring, FSAC here from the warm, Southeastern part of Wisconsin where it is a warm, sunny, minus 10 degrees with a wind chill of minus 30 degrees. Warmer than up North, for sure.

I have read your column in Movie Maker (Jan-Feb 2004) with interest. Regarding the drop in entries, you are forgetting the youth are not that interested in contests today. More for self-satisfaction.

George Cushman, I, and some others are the original "radicals" that left PSA-VMPD and formed AMPS. I have been filming since 1952. Doing reg.8mm, Super 8mm, 16mm, 35mm, and hi-8 video. I have been both Amateur and professional. So I have experience on both sides. I have watched Movie Clubs fold due to lack of interest in the youth, and the age factor with the older members.

You mention the amateur vs. the professional argument. AMPS was formed as basically a film competition. It was aimed toward the amateur, but made allowances for in-

dependent movie makers. It was not intended to be one of the all-encompassing film-making giants like some European competitions. For all makers, professional, independent, and amateur. The way George explained it to me, in Kansas City many years ago, his idea was to reclaim the Ten Best Film Competition which was an Amateur film competition. I may even still have some of the letters he sent me, but I'm not sure. When members complained they couldn't compete with full time independents with film budgets, it was decided to add the independent makers division.

No matter how you look at it, there will always be amateurs who make films for a hobby, who do not own expensive gear, or have great recording studios or equipment, and who are not that advanced in film making. It is an outlet to inspire these people to advance. It has done so for many.

Independents, no matter how you look at it, have more experience because they do it steadily. They also usually have access to the best of equipment (which doesn't always mean a great film), but they gain knowledge a part-time, hobbyist family man can never duplicate or compete with. Lets face it, truly great film makers are born and developed. If you don't have it in you, you will never succeed. It takes a special person to

have the insight, the eye for composition, the sense of direction, the feel of lighting, the ear for great sound, the spare money to accomplish this all.

I have seen competitions which opened the doors to anyone drop by the wayside because these "home-movie" buff dropped out. They were the bread and butter of these competitions.

I know many would argue this point with me. But my experiences have shown me this is true.

I wish you well with your endeavor to better and enlarge the competition. Anyone who volunteers to chair any job in an organization deserves respect and applause. Thank you for doing a great job. Keep it up.

Scopefully;

Ron Doerring ex-FSAC  
rondo@execpc.com

[www.angelfire.com/movies/amps](http://www.angelfire.com/movies/amps)

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secondly, the ageing membership of the present amateur world. The movement is not even attracting many of the people in the 30 to 50 age group so as the movement ages it shrinks and in its present form and structure will probably not survive.

The action plan is no guarantee of survival but if we take no action then AMPS will continue to decline, the people who have devoted so much energy to keeping it going will lose their enthusiasm and AMPS will quietly sink into oblivion.

## **A Plan**

**First and perhaps most provocatively we eliminate the description 'amateur film maker' from our material and substitute 'non-commercial film maker'. Try it, you will get used to it.**

## **Purpose of the American Motion Picture Society**

The purpose of the organization is

To stimulate and encourage the production of non-commercial motion pictures.

To sponsor the annual American International Film and Video Festival.

To establish a community of non-commercial motion picture makers to share information and knowledge.

To publish a newsletter for the exchange of information and knowledge.

## **Proposed Actions.**

**1. The Website** Today an organization is usually first contacted via its website and there the visitor gets a first impression of the organization. The website is a source of information about the organization, what it has to offer, and a contact point. We propose the establishment of a website with our own Domain Name, comprising:

**Home page** - Who we are, what we do, membership application, contact.

**Newsletter page** - Background to Movie Makers, we will not put the complete newsletter on the website but rather a sample of a recent article and a list of contents of the last three newsletters. This will be a teaser to show that the newsletter is one of the benefits of membership.

**Festival Page 1** - A short history of the festival and the awards and categories.

**Festival Page 2** - Dates of the next Festival, location and an entry form and rules as a .pdf file and as a printable page.

**Festival Page 3 and on** - Details of the winners of the last Festival with a short synopsis of each winning film and a complete listing of all the entries with the names of the entrants. This will extend into additional pages so these should be available.

**Links** - Links with other similar groups and festivals both in the USA and abroad. This will generate both incoming and outgoing traffic. The website will be updated at least twice a year - immediately after the Festival

with the listing of the winners and entrants and when the venue and dates of the next Festival are available. At the time of the update the Newsletter page will be updated with a new article and listing of contents of most recent issues.

**2. The American International Film and Video Festival.** The Festival will remain fundamentally unchanged and be open to non-commercial films made for the pleasure of film making and not for financial reward. The defining statement is that in the Festival Rules:

## **General entrants**

**Productions made solely for fun and pleasure, for artistic expression or to make a statement about society with no profit motive in mind, have not been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival and have not been made as a part of a college course. No person working on any aspect of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services nor may the production be sponsored by any commercial organization. Entries may be made by individuals or more than one person, such as a club or group, provided the financial conditions set out are met. The language of the Festival is English and dialog and narration must be in English or with English subtitles provided by the film maker. The maximum running time is 15 minutes including titles and credits. The use of purchased stock footage**

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is not permitted and all copyright clearances are the responsibility of the film maker. Buy-out music is permitted but must be acknowledged in the credits. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement

We eliminate the Independent category.

Does this mean that we will now have professional film makers entering the Festival?

Yes, but recognize that professionals and 'amateurs' now often work with the same equipment, and many film makers produce wedding videos, event videos and special interest videos for payment, provide training or specialized equipment and still consider themselves amateurs when entering festivals. The objective of our Festival is to define the status of the film rather than the film makers.

There will be a separate category with separate awards for students. Students are welcome as members of AMPS and enjoy the full benefits of membership. Faculty of film, video and communications departments of schools, colleges and universities are welcome as members of AMPS and their productions will be entered in the General Category.

#### Student entrants

**Productions made by a student or group of students in**

**full or part time education as a part of their course work. The production must not have been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival. No person working on any part of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services. The language of the Festival is English and dialog and narration must be in English or with English sub-titles provided by the film maker. The maximum running time is 15 minutes including titles and credits. The use of purchased stock footage is not permitted and all copyright clearances are the responsibility of the film maker. Buy-out music is permitted but must be acknowledged in the credits. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement.**

At present the only benefit for members of AMPS entering the Festival is the saving on the entry fee, so we will add an award for the best entry by an AMPS member of two or more years membership. We are also adding an AMPS Novice award for the best entry in the General Category by an AMPS member of two or more years membership and who has not won an award in this Festival.

Best Film  
Second  
Third  
The AMPS member's Award.  
The AMPS Novice Award.  
Certificates of Merit to be awarded at the Judges discretion.

This does mean that an AMPS member could win in three awards! Awards do not have to be made, if, in the judge's opinion the entries do not meet their standards then awards will only be made as they see fit. Awards will be made for both the General and the Student categories. The other awards (editing etc) are retained and open to all entrants if the sponsors agree in light of the change in the Festival.

We will add NTSC DVDs to the list of acceptable formats. We will accept entries originated on film but they must be transferred to one of the acceptable tape or disk formats for entry into the Festival.

To broaden the potential entry it is proposed to permit the admission of PAL productions in 2005 when we have a better understanding of how we can play the entries for judging and at the Festival. Initially we will have separate awards for International entries.

The entry fees will be kept at the present levels, \$10 (UKPounds 6, Euros 8) for members, \$15 for non-members (UKP 10, Euros 12). Additional entries for members (fees reduced) \$2 (UKP 1.50, Euros 2) and \$8 for non-members (UKP 5, Euros 6.50), return postage \$4 within the USA.

AMPS membership USA \$10, Canada \$12 International \$13 (UKP 7.5, Euros 10) includes air mailing of Movie Makers Newsletter.

Judging film festivals will always be a contentious issue. As film is

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an art there are no established rules that can be used as fixed standards to give measured values to. This means that although the decision makers are called judges in reality they are critics with all the prejudices and preconceptions that critics enjoy as the guardians of artistic endeavor. We must accept that judging is a largely subjective activity and one judge's meat may be another judge's poison. We ask that the judges write constructive comments about the film being judged, two copies will be made, one retained in the archive and the other sent to the film maker when the film is returned. Here is a cautionary tale for judges. In 1972 the National Society of Film Critics in New York invited David Lean (Director of Lawrence of Arabia, Dr Zhivago) to be the guest of honor at their meeting. They used the opportunity to savage him and his latest film Ryan's Daughter, the result of this tirade was that Lean did not make another film for fourteen years. Judges/critics have a real responsibility to the film makers as well as the audience and had better be aware of this.

### **3. Growing the Membership.**

Keeping the optional membership application as part of the Festival entry is a good idea and will be continued and will benefit the new member who will immediately enjoy the member's rates for entries into the Festival. We should all try and recruit at least one new member each year by word of mouth and promotion of AMPS by the Board of Directors and members. The key issue to keep in mind is "what are the benefits of membership?" At present these are the reduced

fees for entry to the Festival, awards restricted to members and the bi-monthly Newsletter.

A possible additional benefit is that of setting up a list of members with special expertise who are willing to help other members, predominantly by e-mail communication. One of the advantages of membership is belonging to the AMPS network - for example if you need footage shot in another area then we can assist you contact a local AMPS member who will be able to help. Every member of AMPS should try to recruit two new members this year.

### **4. Movie Makers -The Newsletter.**

Movie Makers is the key to keeping members and we must make sure that a flow of quality articles is maintained. We keep the style and format as it is but we need input from the membership, send a write up of your film making experience, tips, ideas and projects to the Editor.

My thanks to Roger Garrettson, Matt Jenkins, Brenda Lantow, Jim Beach, Bob lehl, Brian Gubler and Dave Watterson who all contributed mightily to the discussion that produced this plan.

### **5. Rules for the Festival.**

#### **AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL**

**Please read these Definitions and Rules carefully before sending your entry.**

#### **General entrants**

Productions made solely for fun and pleasure, for artistic expression or to make a statement

about society with no profit motive in mind, have not been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival and have not been made as a part of a college course. No person working on any aspect of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services nor may the production be sponsored by any commercial organization. Entries may be made by individuals or more than one person, such as a club or group, provided the financial conditions set out are met. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement

#### **Student entrants**

Productions made by a student or group of students in full or part time education as a part of their course work. The production must not have been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival. No person working on any part of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement.

#### **Rules**

1. The Festival is open to all motion picture makers throughout the world
2. The language of the Festival is English and dialog or narration must be in English or with English sub-titles provided by the producer.

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3. Entries must have been made within the past three years. Previous entries may not be re-entered.
4. Entries must be on one of the video formats listed. Entries originated on film are welcome but must be submitted on one of the video formats listed.
5. Entries may be on any subject with a maximum running time of 15 minutes including titles and credits.
6. Trailers indicating previous awards must be removed.
7. The producer must secure all copyright clearances where applicable and sign the copyright release.
8. The use of purchased stock footage is not permitted.
9. The use of buy-out and copyright free music is permitted but must be acknowledged in the credits unless the copyright agreement precludes this.
10. Only one entry per video tape or disk.
11. Use a separate form for each entry. This form may be duplicated.
12. This form must be enclosed with each entry.
13. The judge's decisions are final and binding on the entrants and the organizers.

### Entry Information

1. Receipt of entries will be acknowledged by e-mail only.
2. Whilst extreme care will be given to all entries neither the Festival nor its sponsors or organizers can be responsible for damage or loss.
3. A list of the winning entries and their makers will be published in Movie Makers and on the AMPS website.

4. The judge's report sheets will be mailed to all entrants.
5. All entries will be returned as soon as possible where the producer has requested return and enclosed funds for return postage. If return postage is not included the entry will be held in the Society's library.
6. Foreign entries should be sent by Air Parcel Post or Air Small Package. Please check your local postal regulations for shipping and the return of your production and let us know if any special regulations apply.

## CONVENTION!

Imagine a beautiful harbor, some of the most picturesque scenery in North America, friendly people, an exchange rate for US citizens that is terrific, and a video convention that is superb. Now, picture the Harbour Towers hotel located a block from the harbor, within walking distance from most of the highlights of Victoria BC, including the Parliament House, the Empress Hotel and scores of other attractions and you now have an idea of what awaits you at the next combined festival of AMMA, AMPS and Ten Best of the West.

*The festival will be held in Victoria BC, Canada between September 23-26 with great videos, speakers to enlighten us and camaraderie among the greatest people on earth, you our members.*

Be sure to reserve the date, plan to join us and oh yeah, bring your friends!

## A Call for Videos

The Travel Channel is producing a series about home movies.

The show is called "Reel America" and is about American travel as told through vintage home movies. It is planned to include people's home movies and then give them a chance to tell the stories behind the film. Then, the producer's will take the filmmaker or that person's family or whoever was in the film back to the location where they made the home movie. They'll have a chance to reminisce and see how that place has changed or stayed the same.

If anyone would like to be involved in our program please consider sending in your videos.. The producers are specifically looking for travel or vacation related home movies that feature a well known location.

Preview video can be accepted on any format. Please send your videos to:

Rachael Pihlaja  
Producer  
Termite Art Productions  
11846 Ventura Blvd.  
Suite 204  
Studio City, CA 91604  
(818) 432-4229

Please notify Roger Garrettson or Matt Jenkins if you send in any video so it can be announced in an upcoming issue of *Movie Makers*.

Contest Information

Cotswold Int'l Film and Video  
Festival

Closing Date May 18th, 2004

Entry forms may be downloaded from:

[www.cotswoldfilmvideofest.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldfilmvideofest.co.uk)

Inquires can be addressed to:

[leepres@anglovideogxy.demon.co.uk](mailto:leepres@anglovideogxy.demon.co.uk)

PSA Int'l Video Exhibition 2004

Closing date July 31, 2004

Forms may be obtained from:

[chrish2@juno.com](mailto:chrish2@juno.com)

Guernsey Int'l Film & Video Festival

Closing date May 31, 2004

Forms can be downloaded

from: [www.guernseylily.com](http://www.guernseylily.com)

Ten Best of the West

Closes August 1, 2004

Open to citizens residing w/o the

Mississippi River

Contact David Fuller

[davidfuller@shaw.ca](mailto:davidfuller@shaw.ca)

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
AMERICAN MOTION PICTURE SOCIETY

I Would like to Join the Society:

Dues USA: (includes - Movie Maker) \$ 10.00

Dues Canada: (includes. - Movie Maker) \$ 12.00

Dues-Foreign: (includes - Movie Maker) \$13.00

Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: AMPS, 30 Kanan Rd., Oak Park, CA 91377-1105

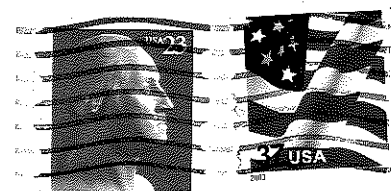
From:

American Motion Picture Society

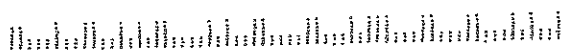
30 Kanan Road

Oak Park, California

91377-1105



Dr. Matt Jenkins-Comm. Dept 06/01/04  
2800 W. Gore Cameron University  
Lawton OK 73515





# Registration

## Annual Festival of Non Commercial Videomakers

sponsored by

*Amateur Movie Makers Association*

*American Motion Picture Society*

*Ten Best of the West*

I am interested in attending the annual festival of non commercial videomakers at the:

Harbour Towers Hotel      \$105/night, single or double plus tax (\$135 CDN + tax)  
345 Quebec St      (*Reservations must be made by Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> to receive the special rate*)  
Victoria, BC Canada V8V 1W4  
1-800-663-5896

*Be sure to tell the hotel that you are attending the "Ten Best of the West" convention to obtain the special discounted rate.*

Registration (includes Sunday breakfast)      \$ 20/person      (\$28 Canadian [CDN])  
\$ 25/person      (\$25 CDN) after August 15<sup>th</sup>  
Banquet (Saturday night) \$26/person      (\$35 CDN)  
Choice of Prime Rib, Alder Smoked Salmon, or Baked Breast of Chicken  
Salad, beverages and Grand Marnier Cheesecake

*Optional activities: A Thursday trip to Butchart Gardens is available on your own.*

Send reservations to:      Ten Best of the West      For Canadian mail  
                                 %Mary Cosgrove      send to:  
                                 P.O. Box 474      P.O. Box 793  
                                 Lewiston NY 14092      Niagara Falls ON L2E 6V6  
                                 E-mail: halmar@niagra.com  
                                 (cut and mail)

Please make the following reservations:

Registration      \_\_\_\_\_ people @ \$20.00 (\$28 CDN)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
"      "      25.00 (\$35 CDN) after Aug 15<sup>th</sup>      \_\_\_\_\_  
Banquet      "      26.00 (\$35 CDN)      \_\_\_\_\_

**All reservations must be received by Sept 8<sup>th</sup> due to the Cosgrove's leaving town**

Total enclosed      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian dinners available on request      (*Make checks out to: Ten Best of the West*)

Dinner choice: Prime Rib \_\_\_\_\_ Alder Smoked Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
please print as you wish it listed on the name badge(s)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

**All reservations must be received by September 8, 2004**

# TEN BEST OF THE WEST

## Contest Entry Form for 2004

(Use a separate entry form for each film/video submitted)

Sponsored by the **Victoria Video Club**

**Final date for entry August 1, 2004**

I hereby submit the following film/video for consideration in the *TEN BEST OF THE WEST* Contest for 2004

Title of Film or Video \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS (Specify and check all that apply)

Video Format:        ( ) VHS    ( ) SVHS    ( ) Mini DV    NTSC @ SP Speed only

Sound track:        ( ) Normal (mono, linear)        ( ) hifi (Stereo)

**My submission of the above film/video acknowledges my acceptance of all Contest Rules, especially 7 & 8.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee (First entry)    US \$ 10.00

(Second entry)            5.00

Signature of entrant \_\_\_\_\_

Return postage (\$5.00)    US \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Clearly printed name of entrant \_\_\_\_\_

For Canadian entries

(First entry)            CAD \$12.00

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

(Second entry)            CAD 6.00 Total

Amount enclosed    US/CAD    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

For *TEN BEST* Committee use only

Entry returned by \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Make all checks payable to "Victoria Video Club"**

**ALL US ENTRY FEES IN US DOLLARS**

**FINAL DATE FOR RECEIPT OF ENTRIES IS August 1, 2004**

**THE TEN BEST WINNERS AND HONORABLE MENTION MOVIES WILL BE SHOWN AT THE**

**AMMA, AMPS, TBW FESTIVAL, Victoria B.C., Canada**

**September 23-26, 2004**

Questions regarding entries may be directed to David Fuller (see address label herewith or e-mail [davidfuller@shaw.ca](mailto:davidfuller@shaw.ca)  
Or (250)751-0142

Shipping label

CONTENTS: Videotape

From

Return label

CONTENTS: VIDEOTAPE

From: David Fuller  
5328 Arbour Lane  
Nanaimo B.C. Canada, V9T 6E5

TO:

To: David Fuller  
5328 Arbour Lane  
Nanaimo B.C.  
Canada, V9T 6E5

# TEN BEST OF THE WEST

## 49<sup>TH</sup> Annual Film/Video Competition

Convention in Victoria, British Columbia supported by the Victoria Video Club

### Competition Rules 2004

1. The Contest is open to any amateur producer whose legal home address is in any of the following States or Provinces Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, No. Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, So. Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba.

2. The Contest is held in Victoria, British Columbia between September 23-26, 2004

3. All videos must be in the hands of the Contest Chairman on or before August 1, 2004

4. Films entered into the contest shall not be held for more than 45 days and after closing date for entries without the permission of the owner of the film.

5. The *Victoria Video Club* will present a Certificate of Merit to each contestant whose film is selected as being among the Ten Best. An award will also be given for the most humorous entry, whether or not it places in the Ten Best. Honorable Mention Certificates may be given for films judged excellent but not one of the Ten Best. All contestants will be given the judges comments and a complete list of all entries with the names of their producers.

6. Entries may be copied with permission of owners, as agreed to on their entry forms.

7. All Films entered shall be considered to have been amateur in intent, shall have been made solely for fun and pleasure with no profit motive in mind, and shall not have been subsidized in any form. Films made during a course of study in film or video production in a college or university leading to a degree are not eligible.

8. The producer must not receive payment, nor make payment to others for work on the production. Any professional (copied or purchased) footage used must not exceed 10% and must be acknowledged in the credit titles. If, after the contest, it is found that the producer's statements are erroneous in regard to amateur intent or financial assistance, the award will be recalled. The recall and the reason for the recall are to be published, and all associations or clubs are to be notified.

9. The Victoria Club will inquire of each entrant, on the entry form, if the requirements of Rules 7 & 8 have been met.

10. Films by groups of amateur film/video club members may be entered in the Contest, providing all individuals connected with the film's production come under the status described in Rules 7 & 8.

11. Neither the *Victoria Club* nor the judges who this club selects shall discriminate in any way on the acceptability of video format, nor of classifications such as travel, documentary, scenario, special effects, or animation.. Video formats are limited to VHS, S-VHS, Mini DV, recorded in the NTSC system in Standard Play (SP) speed. *Each entry must be recorded on a separate video cassette.*

12. All entries shall have titles and credits.

13. Videos that have previously placed in a Ten Best competition or received Honorable Mention cannot be reentered.

14. No producer may enter more than two entries.

15. The *Victoria Video Club* shall immediately acknowledge to the contestant, by card, letter or e-mail, the receipt and arrival condition of the entry.

16. The entrant shall enclose entry fees according to the schedule on the entry form, payable to *Victoria Video Club*. The entrant shall include with entry fees, sufficient funds for return postage if he or she wishes the Victoria Club to return entries. Keep in mind, postage fees are usually higher than the cost of the video tape!

17. Films are limited to a maximum of viewing time of 15 minutes.

### JUDGING

A. The judges shall be asked to select what they consider to be the ten best films submitted and those eligible for any special award.

B. The *Victoria Video Club* shall not impose on the judges any point or scoring system. The judges are to judge the films in a manner of their own choosing.

C. The Ten Best films are not ranked in any order. All films shall be rated equally.

D. In all cases, the decision of the judges is final.

E. The names of the judges shall be published at the time the awards are made known.

F. Although all reasonable care will be exercised in the use and handling of entries, neither the TEN BEST OF THE WEST Contest Committee nor the *Victoria Video Club* will be responsible for the loss of or damage to the video tape

I hereby do \_\_\_ do not \_\_\_ consent to copying my entry to videotape by Ten Best of the West for the purpose of exhibition at the Convention in Victoria in 2004. NOTE: The compilation will be digitally transferred for optimum video and audio quality. Initial \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL DAY FOR RECEIPT OF ENTRIES IS August 1, 2004-----Use a separate entry form for each film**

**Entries must  
be received  
by  
August 31st  
2004**

**American Motion Picture Society**  
Invites entries for  
**The American International Film & Video Festival**  
2004  
75th Consecutive Year

Please print clearly & complete a separate form for each entry.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
(for confirmation of receipt only)

Title \_\_\_\_\_

General ☐ Student ☐ Running time \_\_\_\_\_  
(maximum 15 mins.)

Genre: Documentary ☐ Story ☐ Nature ☐

Experimental ☐

Format: VHS ☐ SVHS ☐ Hi8 ☐ miniDV ☐

DVCAM ☐ DVD ☐

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE NTSC**

I have read the Definitions and Rules of the Festival and confirm that my entry conforms to these. I confirm that all applicable copyright clearances have been completed and I have documentary confirmation of this. I affirm that all the information submitted is true and correct.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Fees**

First entry (members)	US\$ 10.00
First entry (non-members)	US\$ 15.00
Additional entries (members)	US\$ 4.00 each
Additional entries (non-members)	US\$ 8.00 each
Return postage	US\$ 4.00 each
New membership (USA)	US\$ 10.00
New membership (Canada)	US\$ 12.00
New Membership (International)	US\$ 25.00

(this is optional, new members will qualify for the members rates immediately)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment must be made in US funds. Checks, bank drafts, money orders must be cashable at US banks. Please make payable to American Motion Picture Society

The optional membership fee is for one year and includes "Movie Makers" our bi-monthly newsletter.

Entries without return postage will be placed in the AMPS library.

**Mail your entry to:**

**Goslands Studio**  
**PO Box 820381, Veyo, UT 84782 USA**  
(Entries must be received by August 31st 2004)  
**Please enclose this form, your entry, fees & label with your address if you want your entry returned**

**Awards**

**General 1st, 2nd and 3rd and Best entry by an AMPS member (minimum 2 years)**  
**Student 1st, 2nd and 3rd and Best entry by an AMPS member (minimum 2 years)**

**Best editing, Best story, Best experimental, Best nature, Best AMPS novice, Best foreign entry.**

**Certificates of Merit will be awarded at the Judges discretion.**

**Mail your entry to: Goslands Studio, PO Box 820381, Veyo, UT 84782 USA**

**Entries must be received by August 31st 2004**

# **AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL**

**Please read these Definitions and Rules carefully before sending your entry.**

## **General entrants**

Productions made solely for fun and pleasure, for artistic expression or to make a statement about society with no profit motive in mind, have not been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival and have not been made as a part of a college course. No person working on any aspect of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services nor may the production be sponsored by any commercial organization. Entries may be made by individuals or more than one person, such as a club or group, provided the financial conditions set out are met. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement

## **Student entrants**

Productions made by a student or group of students in full or part time education as a part of their course work. The production must not have been subject of any sales or rental agreement prior to entry in the Festival nor expect to be after the Festival. No person working on any part of the production may be paid or rewarded for their services. This Festival is for non-commercial productions only and we ask that the makers respect this requirement.

## **Rules**

1. The Festival is open to all motion picture makers throughout the world
2. The language of the Festival is English and dialog or narration must be in English or with English subtitles provided by the producer.
3. Entries must have been made within the past three years. Previous entries may not be re-entered.
4. Entries must be on one of the video formats listed. Entries originated on film are welcome but must be submitted on one of the video formats listed.
5. Entries may be on any subject with a maximum running time of 15 minutes including titles and credits.
6. Trailers indicating previous awards must be removed.
7. The producer must secure all copyright clearances where applicable and sign the copyright release.
8. The use of purchased stock footage is not permitted.
9. The use of buy-out and copyright free music is permitted but must be acknowledged in the credits unless the copyright agreement precludes this.
10. Only one entry per video tape or disk.
11. Use a separate form for each entry. This form may be duplicated.
12. This form must be enclosed with each entry.
13. The judge's decisions are final and binding on the entrants and the organizers.

## **Entry Information**

1. Receipt of entries will be acknowledged by e-mail only.
2. While extreme care will be given to all entries neither the Festival nor its sponsors or organizers can be held responsible for damage or loss.
3. A list of the winning entries and their makers will be published in Movie Makers and on the AMPS website.
4. The judge's report sheets will be mailed to all entrants.
5. All entries will be returned as soon as possible where the producer has requested return and enclosed funds for return postage. If return postage is not included the entry will be held in the Society's library.
6. Foreign entries should be sent by Air Parcel Post or Air Small Package. Please check your local postal regulations for shipping and the return of your production and let us know if any special regulations apply.